Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. – 7. (Cancelled)

8.   (Currently Amended) A system for selectively allowing use of embedded software comprising:

a microcontroller;

a first non-volatile storage device coupled to the microcontroller, the first non-volatile storage device storing a plurality of programs executable by the microcontroller, the plurality of programs comprising at least a program to perform flow calculations, a program to perform PLC functions, and a program to perform RTU functions;

a second non-volatile storage device coupled to the microcontroller ~~by way of an interface bus~~, the second non-volatile storage device storing software license information; and

wherein the microcontroller refrains from executing at least one of the plurality of programs on the first non-volatile storage device if the software license information on the second non-volatile storage device does not contain an entry allowing use.

9.   (Original) The system as defined in claim 8 wherein the second non-volatile storage device further comprises a read only memory (ROM) device.

10.   (Original) The system as defined in claim 9 wherein the interface bus further comprises a serial interface bus.

Appl. No. 10/085,298
Amendment dated January 18, 2006
Response to Office Action of November 2, 2005

11.   (Original)   The system as defined in claim 10 wherein the ROM device further comprises a serial electrically erasable programmable read only memory (serial EEPROM).

12.   (Original)   The system as defined in claim 10 wherein the serial interface bus further comprises a Serial Peripheral Interface (SPI) bus.

13.   (Original)   The system as defined in claim 12 wherein the serial EEPROM further comprises a part number 25LC040-I device manufactured by Microchip Technology Incorporated.

14.   (Original)   The system as defined in claim 10 wherein the serial interface bus further comprises an Inter-Integrated Circuit (I^2C) bus.

15.   (Original)   The system as defined in claim 8 wherein the second ROM device further comprises a flash ROM device.

16.- 61.   (Cancelled)

62.   (New)   The system as defined in claim 8 wherein the microcontroller limits the number of instances of the flow program to perform flow calculations, the limit based on license information on the second non-volatile storage device.